



3500.015873

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: Aung S. Moe |
| TETSUYA ITANO ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2685 |
| Application No.: 09/976,096 |) | |
| | : | Confirmation No.: 9346 |
| Filed: October 15, 2001 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS |) | May 30, 2006 |
| | : | |

Mail Stop RCE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Introductory Comments

In response to the Office Action mailed February 27, 2006, the Examiner is requested to amend the above-identified application as follows. Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.